

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Notice of Combined Workgroup Meeting for a TMDL Implementation Plan The Gulf, Mattawoman, Barlow, Jacobus, and Hungars Creeks Northampton County, VA

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality announces an additional combined workgroup meeting to discuss water quality improvement plans to be included in the TMDL Implementation Plan for The Gulf, Mattawoman, Barlow, Jacobus, and Hungars Creek in Northampton County, VA.

The meeting will be held on Thursday December 4, 2014 at 9:00 am in the Northampton Board Room located on the 2nd floor of the Administration Building (16404 Courthouse Road) in Eastville, VA.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information and discuss specific plans to be included in the implementation plan with interested local community members and local government. The Implementation Plan (IP) is developed to provide a clean-up plan that will lead to attainment of water quality standards. Public participation and stakeholder involvement are necessary in order to develop an effective and reasonable IP.

The waters listed for this study were identified in Virginia's Water Quality Assessment Integrated Report as impaired for not supporting the fecal coliform criteria for shellfish waters. The impairments are based on water quality monitoring data reports of sufficient exceedances of Virginia's water quality standard for bacteria.

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia require DEQ to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report and subsequent Water Quality Assessment Reports. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, pollutant levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount. The TMDL report for The Gulf, which was approved by EPA on September 20, 2007, can be found at:

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/portals/0/DEQ/Water/TMDL/apptmdls/shellfish/thegulf.pdf>. The TMDL report for Mattawoman Creek, which was approved by EPA on May 6, 2010, can be found at:

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/portals/0/DEQ/Water/TMDL/apptmdls/baycoast/mattawoman.pdf>. The TMDL report for Barlow and Jacobus Creeks, which was approved by EPA on March 17, 2009, can be found at:

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/portals/0/DEQ/Water/TMDL/apptmdls/shellfish/barlowjacob.pdf>. The TMDL report for Hungars Creek, which was approved by EPA on April 30, 2008, can be found at: <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/portals/0/DEQ/Water/TMDL/apptmdls/shellfish/hungar.pdf>.

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* Additional information is also available on the DEQ web site at www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl.